Raids by CBI

3895. LT. GENERAL (Retd.) PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) carried out raids at the houses of seven Officers of U.P. Government and found a large sum of unaccounted money and properties disproportionate to their source of income;

(b) whether these officers are continuing in their respective posts inspite of the said raids and that no disciplinary action has been initiated against them so far; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) No, Sir. The CBI has not carried out raids at the houses of seven officers of the U.P. Government.

(b) and (c) When any investigating agency brings to the notice of the State Government the commission of any offence of possession of assets disproportionate to the known sources of income by any officers of the State Government, the State Government is the competent authority to deal with them under Section 19 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.

Allocation of Funds to Chandigarh

3896. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the allocation of funds was made during 1996-97 for the development of villages of Union Territory of Chandigarh and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of amount utilised and development activities completed or initiated by December 31, 1996; and

(c) the details of future plans to be undertaken in this direction by March, 1997 ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) the (c) Programmes such as Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM) and Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) are not being implemented in the Union Territory of Chandigarh and so no funds are allotted.

Under Rural Water Supply programme, all habitations of the Union Territory of Chandigarh are fully covered with drinking water facility. No allocation of funds has been made for water supply during 1996-97. but Rs. 5.00 lakhs has been allocated under Central Rural Sanitation Programme.

Availability of Sophisticated Weapons

3897. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to non-availability of modern and sophisticated weapons with Security Agencies posted at Pak border of J&K region, a lot of difficulties are being faced in tackling the terrorists' activities; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide them sophisticated weapons and better communication/transportation services ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Action is being taken on a continuous basis to look at the requirements of weaponary and equipments in the context of the Challenges faced by the Security Forces in tackling terrorist activities, both along the border/LOC and in the hinterland. The upgradation of weaponary and equipments etc. is an on-going process and there is regular inter-action in this regard between the heads of the Security Forces and the Central Government.

[Translation]

Policy on Agriculture Marketing System

3898. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the policies formulated by the Government under the Agricultural Marketing System for safeguarding the interests of producers, businessmen and consumers;

(b) whether the Government have made any survey to ensure that the benefits under this scheme are reaching the proper persons; and

(c) if so, the details thereof State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) The subject of Agricultural Marketing comes under the purview of the State Governments/Union Territories. The role of the Central Government is limited to providing technical advice and guidance to the State Governments/Union Territories to formulate suitable policies and programmes on agricultural marketing for safeguarding the interests of producers, businessmen and consumers. At present, there are no Central Sector schemes being implemented in the field of agricultural marketing through State Governments/ Union Territories.

(b) No survey has been conducted.

(c) Not Applicable.